

Removal of esterification catalyst by separation

Abstract

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Process for removal of the esterification catalyst by separation from a crude plasticizer ester obtained by reacting a dicarboxylic acid with C₈-C₁₃ alcohols, by treating the crude ester with an aqueous alkali solution in the range from 10 to 100°C and then separating the aqueous alkaline phase comprising the hydrolyzed esterification catalyst by gravitational phase separation, by treating the crude ester, prior to or during the phase separation, with a salt of a di- or polyvalent metal, or with a mixture of these salts.

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